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## PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

### BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Name(s) of Inventor(s):

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Title of the Invention:

INDEPENDENT STATUS AND HELP DISPLAY

This Application's Attorney Docket Number: 98-739GTW105

**This is a Request under 37 CFR § 1.53(b) for filing:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | an Original Patent Application ( <i>not</i> a continuing application). |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                   | a Continuation Application of:   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                   | a Divisional Application of:   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                   | a Continuation-In-Part ("CIP") application of:                         |

prior ("*parent*") application:

App. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Entitled: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ The parent application is a:

☐ Continuation      ☐ divisional      ☐ continuation-in-part  
of "**grandparent**" application:

App. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Entitled: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Enclosed are:

  8   pages of text (including specification, claims, abstract)  
 22  Claims  
  2  Sheets of drawings  
  0  *computer-readable* copies of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listings  
  0  *paper* copies of nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listings  
  0  statement verifying identity of computer-readable and paper sequence listings  
  0  computer program in microfiche appendix

☐ *For Continuations and Divisionals only:* This application is filed by fewer than all inventors Named in the prior application. **DELETE THE FOLLOWING INVENTOR(S)** named in the prior application:

App. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Entitled: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ *For Continuations and Divisionals Only:* Enclosed is a true copy of the prior application as originally filed, including: specification (including claims), drawings, oath or declaration showing the signature or an indication it was signed, and amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior application. None of the amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior application introduced new matter. The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

**The Total Filing Fee is calculated as follows:**

- ☐ Small entity status is believed proper for this application.  
☐ A Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status:  
☐ will be filed at a later date.  
☐ is filed herewith.  
☐ was filed in the parent application, and such status is still proper and desired.  
☐ is no longer desired.

☐ Enter the enclosed Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the filing fee.

	(Col 1)		(Col 2)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	NON-SMALL ENTITY	
	NUMBER OF CLAIMS PRESENTED		NUMBER OF EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
TOTAL	22	Minus 20	= 2	x9=	\$ 0		x18=	\$ 36
INDEP	2	minus 3	= 0	x39=	\$ 0		x78=	\$ 0
BASE FILING FEE:				+380=	\$ 0		+760=	\$ 760
Multiple Dependent Claims				+130=	\$ 0		+260=	\$ 0
				TOTAL	0	OR TOTAL	\$ 796	

- ☒ A check including the above TOTAL filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ An original executed Declaration is enclosed.
- ☐ **No** Declaration and **no** filing fee are enclosed. An executed Declaration will be submitted at a later date, with a check for the above filing fee and a surcharge under 37 CFR § 1.16(e). Except for the filing fee, the Commissioner is authorized **throughout the pendency of the application** to charge any fee deficiency under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 18-0810. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is attached.
- ☐ *For Continuations and Divisionals only:* If extensions of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the parent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned to allow co-pendency of the parent and the present continuing application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency under 37 CFR § 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-0810. A duplicate copy of this Form is enclosed.
- ☐ Before the first line of the specification, insert:

-- This is a \*\*continuation \*\*divisional \*\*continuation-in-part\*\* of U.S. Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. --

☒ Assignment document(s) is/are submitted herewith, with a check including the recordation fee of \$40.00 per Assignment.

☐ Foreign priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 from:

\_\_\_\_\_ Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

The certified priority paper(s):

☐ was/were filed in the parent case;  
☐ is/are enclosed herewith;  
☐ will be submitted at a later date.

☐ Also enclosed for appropriate processing are the following:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 18-0810. A duplicate copy of this Form is enclosed.

Prompt processing of the enclosed is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST L.L.P.

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By: Raymond C. Gleming

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## INDEPENDENT STATUS AND HELP DISPLAY

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### 1. Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to displays for status or "help" information in computer application programs. More specifically, the invention relates to status or help displays that are presented so as not to overlap with windows of the application program to which the status or help display pertains.

#### 2. Related Art

10 Many commercially-available application programs have on-line help functions that allow a user to access a data base of context-sensitive help information. Conventionally, a user must manually invoke the help function, such as by clicking a mouse on a help menu item or help icon, or pressing the F1 key. When invoked, the conventional help function causes a help window to be displayed that conceals some or all areas of interest on the software application from which the help function was invoked.

15 This concealment makes it necessary for the user to move or resize one or both of the application window and the help window, and/or repeatedly change the focus between windows to select which is the active window. Especially because help functions are often invoked by novices, this moving and resizing of windows distracts from the learning process. In any event, it can be frustrating and time-consuming to all users.

20 Moreover, the mere invocation of a help function may be distracting to some users. Indeed, some users having difficulty using an application program may not even be aware of, or think of, invoking the help function. In this event, the user is not even reminded that help is easily available for a given function.

25 More generally, in addition to help functions, it is often desirable to provide *status* information concerning an application program that is being executed. However, conventional display of such status information has suffered from the same shortcomings as the display of help information as described above.

Accordingly, there is a need in the art to provide status information and/or context-sensitive help that is easily and naturally invoked, and that does not conceal or otherwise interfere with the user's view of the application program. It is to meet at least these needs that the present invention is directed.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

30 When a user wants to display application program status information or when the user invokes a help function, either manually or automatically, the present invention provides a context-sensitive status or help display that is either physically or virtually separate from the application program display. That is, the status or help display does not conceal or otherwise interfere with the main output of the application program. With  
35 this arrangement, the user is not inconvenienced by invoking a status request or help functions, nor is the user distracted by its display.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon a reading of this specification including the accompanying drawings.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 The invention is better understood by reading the following Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawing figures, in which like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout, and in which:

FIG. 1 shows a computer system according to a first embodiment of the present invention, in which a physically separate display of intercepted status or help information is provided.

10 FIG. 2 shows a computer system according to a second embodiment of the present invention, in which an integrated physical display of intercepted status or help information is provided.

FIGS. 3A and 3B are a flow charts schematically illustrating operation of embodiments of the present invention, with FIG. 3B showing details of a particular step in FIG. 3A.

15 FIG. 4 schematically illustrates an alternative embodiment of an auxiliary help display that has its own integrated controls for controlling display of the help windows.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

20 In describing preferred embodiments of the present invention illustrated in the drawings, specific terminology is employed for the sake of clarity. However, the invention is not intended to be limited to the specific terminology so selected, and it is to be understood that each specific element includes all technical equivalents that operate in a similar manner to accomplish a similar purpose.

25 FIG. 1 shows a computer system 100 according to a first embodiment of the present invention, in which a separate physical display of intercepted status or help information is provided. The system includes a computer chassis 110 connected to a main display 120 and a keyboard 130. Significantly, an auxiliary display 140 functions as a status or help display that is connected to the chassis by, for example, a universal serial bus (USB) connection 150. All such individual elements may be of conventional design, although their arrangement and operation together are distinguished from known systems. Preferably, the auxiliary display 140 is implemented as a physically smaller and less expensive display, such as a monochrome liquid crystal display (LCD). However, it is understood that the auxiliary display may be of equal or higher display quality 30 to the main display if so desired.

35 In operation, the main display 120 displays the windows of an application program. When a status request or help function is invoked, either explicitly or automatically, the inventive system intercepts such request or invocation and diverts the status or help window to the auxiliary display 140. The inventive arrangement prevents the status or help window from being displayed on the main display 120, thereby ensuring that the status or help window does not obscure or otherwise interfere with the presentation of the

application program. The user views the application display and the auxiliary display simultaneously on the two physically separate displays 120 and 140.

FIG. 2 shows a computer system 200 according to a second embodiment of the present invention, in which an integrated physical display of intercepted help information is provided. The system includes a computer chassis 210 connected to a display 220 and a keyboard 230. As in the first embodiment, all such individual elements may be of a hardware design that is basically conventional, although their operation together is distinguished from known systems.

In the FIG. 2 embodiment, display 220 displays applications programs in a conventional manner. However, when a status request or help function is invoked, either explicitly or automatically, display 220 is made to include first and second regions 221 and 222, respectively. First region 221 remains dedicated to the display of the application program window. However, second region 222 is dedicated to display of the status or help window. Second region 222 can be considered to be a *virtual* help display that performs the same function as the *physically* separate help display 140 in the FIG. 1 embodiment.

The structure of two exemplary embodiments of the invention having been described above, following is a description of their operation.

FIG. 3A is a high-level flow chart schematically illustrating operation of embodiments of the invention. Block 300 indicates the running of an application program in a conventional manner. During this operation, the application program's windows are displayed on display 120 (FIG. 1) or 220 (FIG. 2).

Block 310 indicates invocation of the application's status request or help function. This invocation may be by explicit user request, such as pressing on the F1 key or clicking on a help menu item or help icon. Alternatively, according to the invention, this invocation of the status request or help function can be made automatically. The status request or help function that is invoked is made context-sensitive by determining which window is the "active" window (the window that "has focus"). The manner in which these functions are performed is described with reference to FIG. 3B.

Finally, block 330 indicates the display of the appropriate status or help window on auxiliary display 140 (FIG. 1) or on virtual display 222 of physical display 220 (FIG. 2). At this time, the user views the application window and the status or help window simultaneously without conflict.

FIG. 3B illustrates an exemplary manner in which the help function is invoked, and in which the help information is prepared for sending to the physical or virtual auxiliary help display. Block 321 indicates use of the WINDOWS API EnumWindows function to identify handles of windows that are open. With the knowledge of which windows are open at a given time, block 322 indicates the identification of which window is the active window (the window that "has focus"). Block 323 indicates use of the identified focus window information to obtain title of the window that has focus.

Given the title of the window that has focus, block 324 indicates the actual activation of the on-line status or help feature associated with that window title, and retrieval of the corresponding information. Finally,

block 325 indicates the directing of the on-line status or help information to the physical or virtual auxiliary display.

5 The process of monitoring active windows, identifying focus windows and determining their titles for retrieval and routing of help information to the auxiliary display can be an ongoing process. That is, the functions of blocks 321 through 325 can be repeated with each opening or closing of windows, or with each change in which window has focus. As a particular example, the inventive arrangement generates a simulated F1 key closure to retrieve the proper status or help information as part of block 324. This ongoing process enables an embodiment in which the online status or help is continuously and automatically updated for the user, based solely on the user's navigation through the windows of the application program. In this  
10 embodiment, the user does not have to explicitly invoke the status request or help function by pushing F1 or clicking on a help menu item or help icon.

The preferred embodiment of the invention makes use of the basic ability for an application program to send certain windows to specific displays that is available in the MICROSOFT® WINDOWS® operating system as "multimonitor support." That operating system includes the ability to provide independent displays as well as "large desktops." Independent displays generally involve display of windows on respective display devices, whereas large desktops involve a single window that is split across more than one display device. The independent display is more applicable to the present invention than the large desktop because the invention primarily envisions separate display of the application's main window and the status or help window. However, use of the invention with the large desktop is of course not precluded.

Advantageously, the invention's use of the multimonitor support allows the different monitors to have their own resolutions and color depths. This variety allows, for example, a higher-resolution monitor to be used for the application's main window and a less expensive lower-resolution monitor (such as a monochrome LCD display with a thin form factor) to be used for the auxiliary display.

FIG. 4 schematically illustrates an alternative embodiment of an auxiliary help display 400 that has its own integrated controls for controlling display of the help windows. Display 400 is shown schematically with integrated BACK control 410 and FORWARD control 420 that allow a user to move between previously-displayed status or help windows and to return to a currently-displayed status or help window.

Modifications and variations of the above-described embodiments of the present invention are possible, as appreciated by those skilled in the art in light of the above teachings. For example, the type of information sent to the auxiliary display need not be limited to conventional help information, but may be any status or other information desired. Further, varying the number, type and arrangement of displays lies within the contemplation of the present invention. It is therefore to be understood that, within the scope of the appended claims and their equivalents, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described.



WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer system comprising:  
first display means for displaying a main window of an application program;  
second display means for displaying auxiliary information related to the application program; and  
means, responsive to the application program, for separately routing the main window to the first display means and the auxiliary information to the second display means so that display of the auxiliary information does not overlap display of the main window.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the routing means includes a multimonitor support feature inherent in an operating system of the computer system.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the auxiliary information is help information from a help information data base included in the application program.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the first and second display means constitute different portions of a screen on a single display device.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the first and second display means constitute respective first and second physically separate display devices.
6. The system of claim 5, wherein:  
the second display device is physically smaller than the first display device.
7. The system of claim 5, wherein:  
the second display device has a lower resolution than the first display device.
8. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the system further comprises intercepting means for intercepting a user request; and

the routing means routes the auxiliary information to the second display means in response to the intercepting means' interception of the user request.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein:  
the user request is an invocation of a help function in the application program; and  
the routing means constitutes means for routing help information from a help data base in the application program to the second display means.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
the system further comprises means for continually monitoring an active window in the application program; and  
the routing means constitutes means for automatically routing to the second display means, auxiliary information that corresponds to a window that the monitoring means determines to be the active window.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the routing means constitutes:  
means for automatically routing to the second display means, help information that corresponds to a window that the monitoring means determines to be the active window.

12. A method for displaying auxiliary information to prevent overlap with display of a main window of an application program, the method comprising:  
routing and displaying the main window of the application program to a first display means;  
and  
separately routing the auxiliary information to a second display means, so that display of the auxiliary information does not overlap display of the main window.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the routing step includes using a multimonitor support feature inherent in an operating system of a computer system that executes the application program.

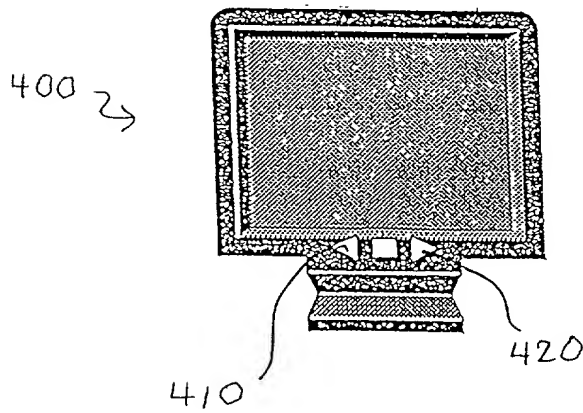
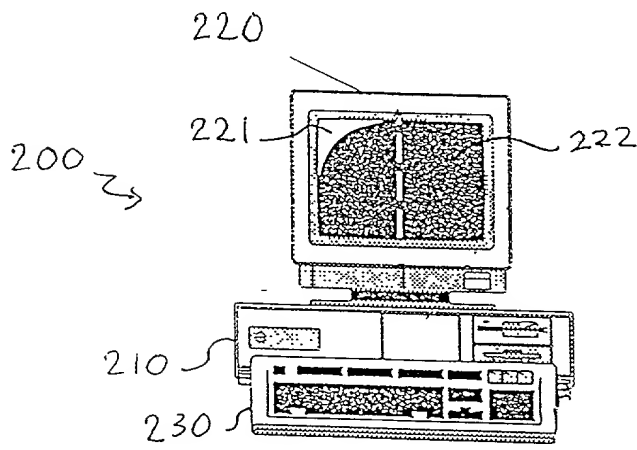
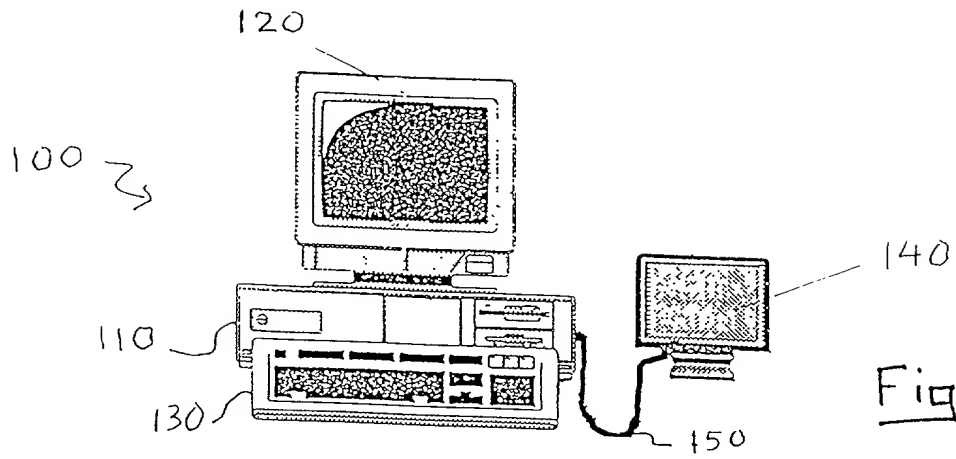
14. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the auxiliary information is help information from a help information data base included in the application program.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the first and second display means constitute different portions of a screen on a single display device.
16. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the first and second display means constitute respective first and second physically separate display devices.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein:  
the second display device is physically smaller than the first display device.
18. The method of claim 16, wherein:  
the second display device has a lower resolution than the first display device.
19. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the method further comprises intercepting a user request; and  
the routing step includes routing the auxiliary information to the second display means in response to the interception of the user request.
20. The method of claim 19, wherein:  
the user request is an invocation of a help function in the application program; and  
the routing step constitutes routing help information from a help data base in the application program to the second display means.
21. The method of claim 12, wherein:  
the method further comprises continually monitoring an active window in the application program; and  
the routing step constitutes automatically routing to the second display means, auxiliary information that corresponds to a window that the monitoring step determines to be the active window.
22. The method of claim 21, wherein the routing step constitutes:  
automatically routing to the second display means, help information that corresponds to a window that the monitoring step determines to be the active window.

## INDEPENDENT STATUS AND HELP DISPLAY

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When a user wants to display application program status information or invoke a help function (either manually or automatically), a context-sensitive status or help display is provided that is either physically or virtually separate from the application program display. That is, the status or help display does not conceal or otherwise interfere with the main output of the application program. With this arrangement, the user is not inconvenienced by invoking a status request or help functions, nor is the user distracted by its display. The status or help information may be displayed in a portion of a single screen that does not overlap with the active window of the application program (a *virtually* separate display). Alternatively, a *physically* separate auxiliary display may be provided for display of the status or help information.



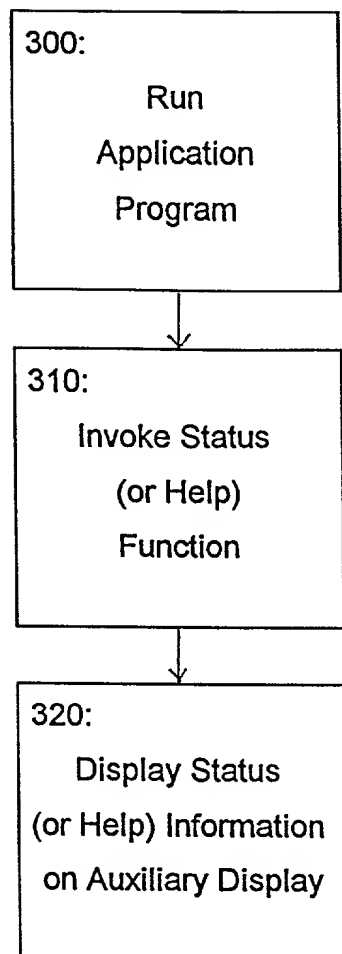


FIG. 3A

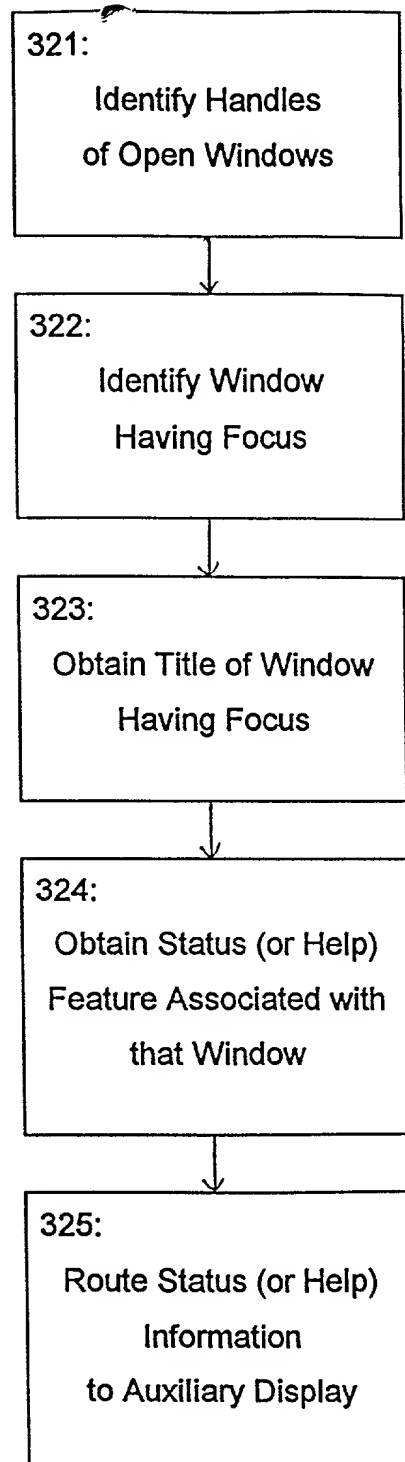


FIG. 3B

# DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Independent Status and Help Display**,

the specification of which

(Check One):   X   is attached hereto.  
                          was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as

Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

and was amended on (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 printed on the reverse side of this Declaration. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Application No.	Country	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed	
			Yes	No
None				

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Application No.	Date of Filing	Status-Patented, Pending or Abandoned
None		

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**SIGNATURE(S)**

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Inventor's signature *Glen Anderson*

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Date 7/14/99 Country of Citizenship USA

Residence Sioux City, IA

Post Office Address 3007 Jackson, Sioux City, IA 51104

Full name of **third joint inventor**

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Post Office Address \_\_\_\_\_



**37 CFR 1.56: DUTY TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION MATERIAL TO PATENTABILITY.**

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by ss 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
  - (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
  - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
    - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
    - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
  - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor

**35 U.S.C. 102: CONDITIONS FOR PATENTABILITY; NOVELTY AND LOSS OF RIGHT TO PATENT**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless--

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other.

**35 U.S.C. 103: CONDITIONS FOR PATENTABILITY; NON-OBVIOUS SUBJECT MATTER**

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negative by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

**35 U.S.C. 119: BENEFIT OF EARLIER FILING DATE IN FOREIGN COUNTRY; RIGHT OF PRIORITY (Applicable Portion)**

An application for patent for an invention filed in this country by any person who has, or whose legal representatives or assigns have, previously regularly filed an application for a patent for the same invention in a foreign country which affords similar privileges in the case of applications filed in the United States or to citizens of the United States, shall have the same effect as the same application would have if filed in this country on the date on which the application for patent for the same invention was first filed in such foreign country, if the application in this country is filed within twelve months from the earliest date on which such foreign application was filed, but no patent shall be granted on any application for a patent for an invention which has been patented or described in a printed publication in any country more than one year before the date of the actual filing of the application in this country, or which had been in public use or on sale in this country more than one year prior to such filing.

**35 U.S.C. 120: BENEFIT OF EARLIER FILING DATE IN THE UNITED STATES**

An application for patent for an invention disclosed in the manner provided by the first paragraph of section 112 of this title in an application previously filed in the United States, or as provided by section 363 of this title, by the same invention shall have the same effect, as to such invention, as though filed on the date of the prior application, if filed before the patenting or abandonment of or termination of proceedings on the first application or on an application similarly entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the first application and if it contains or is amended to contain a specific reference to the earlier filed application.

**35 U.S.C. 112: SPECIFICATION (Applicable Portion)**

The Specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the making and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make the use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctive claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

GATEWAY, INC., assignee(s) of the application for United States Letters Patent for

**Independent Status and Help Display**

(Title)

by **Glen J. Anderson and John S. Love**

(Inventors)

X executed on \_\_\_\_\_, or


\_\_\_\_\_ having Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_,

a copy of the assignment of which is attached hereto, do(es) hereby appoint as attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Mark S. Walker, Reg. No. 30,669  
 Anthony Claiborne, Reg. No. 39,636  
 Joseph H. Lee, Reg. No. 37,664  
 Nathaniel A. Humphries, Reg. No. 22,772  
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I, the undersigned, declare that I am the (an) assignee of the above-identified application or, if the assignee is a corporation, partnership or other association, I am authorized to make this appointment on behalf of the assignee. The above-identified assignee is the owner of this application by reason of an assignment being filed with the Patent Office for recordation concurrently herewith. In accordance with 37 CFR § 3.373(b), I certify that I have reviewed all documents in the chain of title, and to the best of my knowledge, all right, title, and interest is in the above-identified assignee, and I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Full Name of Assignee	GATEWAY, INC.	
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Signature of Declarant or Assignee		Date 7-15-99

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

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